

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A system for creating an item location directory to locate one or more specific items, which comprises:

a.) a plurality of sets of different items,

each set having at least one item

therein, each set having a specified

location, and each set having its own

unique item-identifying bar code, with

at least one item of each set having

said unique item-identifying bar code

located thereon;

b.) a plurality of specified locations,

each location having at least one of

said plurality of sets of different

items located thereat, each location of

said plurality of locations having a  
unique location-identifying bar code,  
at least one item from each set of said  
plurality of sets of items having a  
said unique location-identifying bar  
code physically situated thereon;

c.) at least one bar code reader for  
reading said item-identifying bar codes  
and said location-identifying bar  
codes;

d.) at least on processor adapted to  
receive inputs from said at least one  
bar code reader;

f.) sufficient programming within said  
processor to provide for recognition,  
organization, storage and presentation

of item-identification/corresponding  
location-identification data pairs  
obtained from said item-identifying bar  
codes and said location-identifying bar  
codes, so as to create an item location  
directory therefrom.

2. The system of claim 1 wherein said unique  
item-identifying bar code is a universal price  
code bar code.

3. The system of claim 1 wherein said unique  
location-identifying bar code is a bar code which  
corresponds to a location selected from the group  
consisting of aisle, row, shelf, bin, drawer and  
floor space area.

4. The system of claim 1 wherein said unique location-identifying bar code is a bar code which includes code for genus data and for species data.

5. The system of claim 4 wherein said genus data is row or aisle data, and said species data is bin, drawer or shelf data.

6. The system of claim 1 wherein said programming includes software which is capable of receiving bar code reader inputs and converting same to item-identification/corresponding location-identification data pairs for location information.

7. The system of claim 1 wherein said system further includes a user feedback unit which includes visual display means for viewing visual feedback in the form of text, or map or a combination thereof.

8. The system of claim 1 wherein said location-identifying bar codes are universal price code bar codes assigned to specific locations and are different from all item-identifying bar codes contained within the system, and wherein said processor is programmed to correlate said location-identifying bar codes to their assigned locations.

9. The system of claim 2 wherein said location-

identifying bar codes are universal price code bar codes assigned to specific locations and are different from all item-identifying bar codes contained within the system, and wherein processor is programmed to correlate said location-identifying bar codes to their assigned locations.

10. The system of claim 1 which further includes at least one directory selected from the group consisting of printed directory, on-screen directory, on-line directory, audible directory and combinations thereof.

11. A method of creating data for directories for locating items, which comprises:

(a) for a plurality of different sets of

items, each set's items being different from items of other sets, and each set containing at least one item, and each set having a specific location, providing a unique item-identifying bar code on at least one item of each set of items;

(b) physically applying unique location-identifying bar codes to at least one item of each set of items, said location-identifying bar codes representing the specific location of the item to which it is applied;

(c) reading said item-identifying bar codes and said location-identifying bar codes in a predetermined sequence to create item/corresponding location data and inputting said data to a processor for assemblage into a directory format and for storage thereof for

subsequent directory retrieval.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein said location-identifying bar codes are each physically applied to items to represent a specific item location selected from the group consisting of aisle, row, shelf, bin, drawer and floor space area.

13. The method of claim 11 wherein said item-identifying bar codes are universal price code bar codes.

14. The method of claim 11 which further includes creating said unique location-identifying bar codes prior to applying them to said items.



15. The method of claim 14 wherein said unique location-identifying bar codes are created from universal price code bar codes which are not included in the item-identifying bar codes used in the method.

16. The system of claim 11 which further includes reading said bar codes with a bar code reader which is connected directly to said processor, is connected indirectly to said processor, or is connectable to said processor.

17. The system of claim 6 which further includes reading said bar codes with a bar code reader which is wirelessly connected to said processor.

18. The method of claim 11 which further includes utilizing a secondary processor, to receive and translate bar code reader inputs thereto and to create item/corresponding location information in voice enabling format.